

# Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

March 18, 2024

Pinion writer: Geoff Ziman



Chartered: May 1, 1922

## WELCOME TO OUR MEMBERS & GUESTS



The meeting opened with a mention from President **LIZ KNISS** that next year's presidential theme will change from "Create Hope in the World" to "The Magic of Rotary". In response to the call for visitors the speaker Ran Ran and her husband Xiu who were introduced by **ULLRICH SCHWERTSCHLAG**.

## QUOTE FOR THE DAY

In his "Thought for the Day" **CASH ALAEE** dwelled on the color green, jumping from its association with St. Patrick's Day to the freshness of the upcoming Persian New Year, Nowruz, to the anticipated proceeds from our annual crab feed. He also took the opportunity to join the President's Club to honor **SHERRI SAGER, BETSY BECHTEL and STEVE EMSLIE**, with the Friends of the Junior Museum and Zoo, on their Palo Alto Tall Trees Award recognition to be celebrated on Thursday, April 18.

## Previous QUOTE FOR THE DAY corrected

We're very proud to have Olympian **ANNE CRIBBS** as a member of our club, and we want to give her full due. Last week she reflected on her experience as a co-founder of the AMERICAN BASKETBALL LEAGUE. or (ABL), a professional league that

she helped form in 1997. Now, 29 years later, the WNBA is coming to the Bay Area, college player Caitlin Clark draws more than 18,000 fans to her games, and women's sports are attracting fans who have never had season tickets to a sport. Thank you **ANNE** for all you do!



## PRESIDENTS CLUB

**LINNET KWOK** joined the President's Club to honor **SHERRI SAGER'S** retirement from the Stanford Children's Hospital.

**GINNY LEAR** made a contribution for the three Tall Tree Recipients, mentioned by **CASH**, remembering that in 2018, assisted by **STEVE EMSLIE**, our club gave \$100,000 to the Junior Museum & Zoo in support of the renovation of this community asset. It is our club's largest one-time gift.

## ANNUAL FUNDRAISER! March 23rd

**PEACE, LOVE and ROTARY** is March 23. All funds raised will go to support our annual charities, grants, and scholarships next year.

The dynamic duo of **REBECCA GERALDI** and **BRUCE GEE** made their final pitch for bids for the on-line auction and our attendance at the Crab Feed and Live Auction on the coming Saturday evening. Note that, if you move fast, you may still be able to find a place at the infamous paella party at **BRUCE** and **Jane Gee's** home as well as the possibility of going on the ever-popular San Francisco art walk with **Megan O'Reilly-Lewis** and **TODD LEWIS**.

## NEW MEMBER INDUCTION

Membership Chair **LINNET KWOK** welcomed **MARY ANN GEE** back into membership, sponsored by **SHERRI SAGER**. SHERRI completed the reintroduction by alluding to MARY ANN'S singing talent and the success of MARY ANN'S daughter, Danielle, as a sports commentator for ESPN.



than the central government. This leads to the big question of how can the United States and China foster cooperation despite differing perceptions of government trust?

In question time, **JOAN PLASTIRAS** asked for a comparison of the number of coal burning plants between the US and China. **HENRIETTA BURROUGHS** asked about the health consequences of pollution.

## IN CLOSING

President **LIZ** thanked our speaker and all who helped to make our meeting possible. And, "See you Saturday night!"

## TODAY'S MEETING VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: Karen Rohde, **Joop Verbaken**  
Cashier/Welcome Desk: **Rebecca Gerald**, **Katie Seedman**

Zoom/Hybrid Host: **Ben Threlkeld**

Pinion writer: **Geoff Ziman**

Pinion editor: **Ginny Lear**

## PUT YOUR Old Eye Glasses BACK IN USE

We were reminded that **SUSAN LUTTER** is still collecting old eye glasses for reuse in the Cameroons and will contribute \$5 to Rotary for each one of them.

## TODAY'S PROGRAM

After a pause for club members to interact, **ULLRICH SCHWERTSCHLAG** introduced our speaker. **Dr Ran Ran**



is an associate professor in the School of International Studies at Renmin University of China. Her topic was "China's Green Dream and Its Implications on US-China Climate Change Cooperation". The speaker's primary point was that environmental

considerations are dependent on politics. In China there is heavy pollution but the central government definitely promotes the objective of a cleaner environment – the green dream. At the local level there is a high degree of distrust of local government. This is contrary to the situation in the United States where local government enjoys a higher level of trust

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

**March 23**  
**Club Annual Fundraiser**  
5:30-8:00 pm  
Mitchell Park

**Peace Love Rotary**  
fundraising for our Charitable Grants.

**SOLD OUT! Thank You!!**

**March 25**  
12:15-1:30pm  
Club Meeting

**Ron Gentile, Palo Alto Pickleball Club** (1100 members)  
Topic: "Arrive as a Stranger and Leave as a Friend"

**April 1**  
12:15-1:30pm  
Club Meeting

**Megan Swezey Fogarty, Stanford University, Associate VP for Community Engagement**  
Stanford and Palo Alto: Driving More Purposeful Engagement

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